

Board of Supervisors,

On August 3rd, the BOS reviewed the spending plan proposed by County CEO. Though the Redwood Valley Grange was listed in the County's Fire Recovery Plan, the CEO neglected to even list it on the proposed spending plan. It was mentioned by Supervisor McGourty but the BOS did not discuss it, and was therefore not funded.

The Redwood Valley Grange was a critical community resource after the 2017 fire. The Grange hall was open to all for several weeks, providing a free hot meal to anyone. The hall became the center of the recovery effort, collecting and distributing supplies, food and information. WI-FI was donated by SeaKay Broadband so folks could check email. Laptops and radios were donated. County Building & Planning used our hall to hold critical community meetings. Several outside agencies set up tables in the hall: Red Cross, FEMA, County Social Services, County Building & Planning Services, etc.

The RV Grange hall is 100 years old this month! The land was donated in 1921 and the hall built by volunteers in the same year. The Grange has a long history of being a community center for this valley, whether it be disaster, celebration, fundraiser or other needs.

The Redwood Valley Grange is a non-profit. Funds to pay bills have been raised by renting the hall. Since COVID, we have been unable to do that and are reaching into our savings to pay monthly bills.

Take a look at the proposed spending plan for the PG&E settlement funds. There are many items being funded that are seemingly unrelated to the 2017 Fire: for instance, \$800,000 for facilities modifications for Planning & Building Services.

The Redwood Valley Grange is vital to our community and it deserves a piece of the settlement funds. The fire devastated Redwood Valley with loss of property and tragically loss of life. Surely the funds should be spent here first before taking care of other projects in the county.

Thank you,

Marya Legrand
Rental Manager, Redwood Valley Grange No. 382